

Foursquare World

NOVEMBER, 1983

ADVANCE

The wind blows
wherever it pleases.
You hear its sound,
but you cannot tell
where it comes from
or where it is going.
So it is
with everyone born
of the Spirit.
—John 3:8, NIV



IN THE SPIRIT

By Janice Pedersen

Find the Spark in your Spark Plugs

Stale Christianity?; lacking a sense of excitement and vitality? Could it be? "Never!" you answer. "We Christians have the joy of the Lord!" Yet, what comes to mind when I mention the words "church," "prayer," and "Thanksgiving"? Do they send a sense of thrill and fervor through your mind? If not, you must be experiencing the "stale Christian" syndrome. Let me help you find a cure.

What comes to mind when I mention the word "life"? The first words I thought of were "aliveness," "spark," "vitality," and "activity." Christ said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10, KJV). Think now, what kind of "life" do you think Christ was intending to bring? Tombstones and dead spark plugs?

What type of person is the Christ you are acquainted with? The Christ I read about who walked the earth was witty, strong, caring, and enjoyed good humor. Humor—this speaks much of life and spark. And it is one side of Christ which is not considered too often. Christ used humor now and then in parables and witty statements to relate to the common people. One such example is cited by Elton Trueblood in *The Humor of Christ* (Harper & Row, publishers):

"There is sly humor, as well as deep meaning, in Christ's words about where to put a light. The message is about the necessity of witness, but the failure to make a witness is rendered laughable when Jesus asks, 'Is a lamp brought in to be put under a bushel, or under a bed, and not on a stand?' (Mark 4:21, RSV). Since the lamp mentioned has an open flame and since the bed is a mattress, it is easy to see that in this situation the light would be suffocated or the mattress would be burned. The appeal here is to the patently absurd. The sensitive laugh, because they get the point."

David and Paul were others who, boldly breaking the "stale Christian stereotype," demonstrated much spark and enjoyment of life living godly lives. David writes, "Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and SHOUT FOR JOY, all you upright in heart!" (Ps. 32:11, RSV). Paul writes, "May the God of hope FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope (Rom. 15:13, RSV).

Non-Christians seem to think they must give up fun and excitement to follow Christ. What could be more exciting than knowing a supernatural God? What more "fun" can you experience than when you have an inner peace and confidence?

This Thanksgiving, don't just passively sit around the table and turkey and unintelligibly mumble a few words of thanks to God. GET EXCITED! Feel the surge of energy and excitement as a Christian and shout *Hallelujah!* The Christian's Thanksgiving is full of spark, thrill and fervor. It is a time to bust our buttons (not literally!), yes—to get emotional, and burst with thanks!

Christianity? Stale? Never!



This We Believe

...that the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God (II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:19-21).
 ...that God is triune--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (I John 5:7; John 1:1,2,14).
 ...that man fell through disobedience (Romans 5:12,19).
 ...that Christ died to redeem us (Titus 2:14; Gal. 3:13).
 ...that salvation is through grace (Eph. 2:8-10; Rom. 3:23,24).
 ...that repentance and acceptance are vital (I John 1:9; John 6:37b).
 ...that new birth must be experienced to become a child of God (John 3:3; II Cor. 5:17).
 ...in a daily Christian life (I Thess. 5:23; Heb. 6:1).
 ...in water baptism through immersion (Rom. 6:4; Acts 2:41).
 ...in the institution of the Lord's supper (I Cor. 11:23b-28).
 ...in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5,8; 2:4).
 ...in the Spirit filled life (Rom. 12:1,2; Gal. 5:16,25).
 ...in the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 12:6-8; Gal. 5:22,23; John 15:8).
 ...that we must be moderate in all things (Phil. 4:5).
 ...in Divine healing (James 5:14-16; Matt. 8:17).
 ...that the Second Coming of Christ is both imminent and personal (I Thess. 4:16,17).
 ...in Church relationship and in civil government (Heb. 10:24,25; Rom. 13:1,3).
 ...in the final judgment (Matt. 13:41-43).
 ...in heaven and hell (I Cor. 2:9; John 14:2; Rev. 20:10,15).
 ...in tithes and offerings to support the Lord's work (Malachi 3:10; II Cor. 9:7).
 ...that the Church is responsible to evangelize all nations (Mark 16:15; John 4:35-37).

STATEMENT OF FAITH
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 Foursquare Gospel

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IN THE SPIRIT OF THANKSGIVING

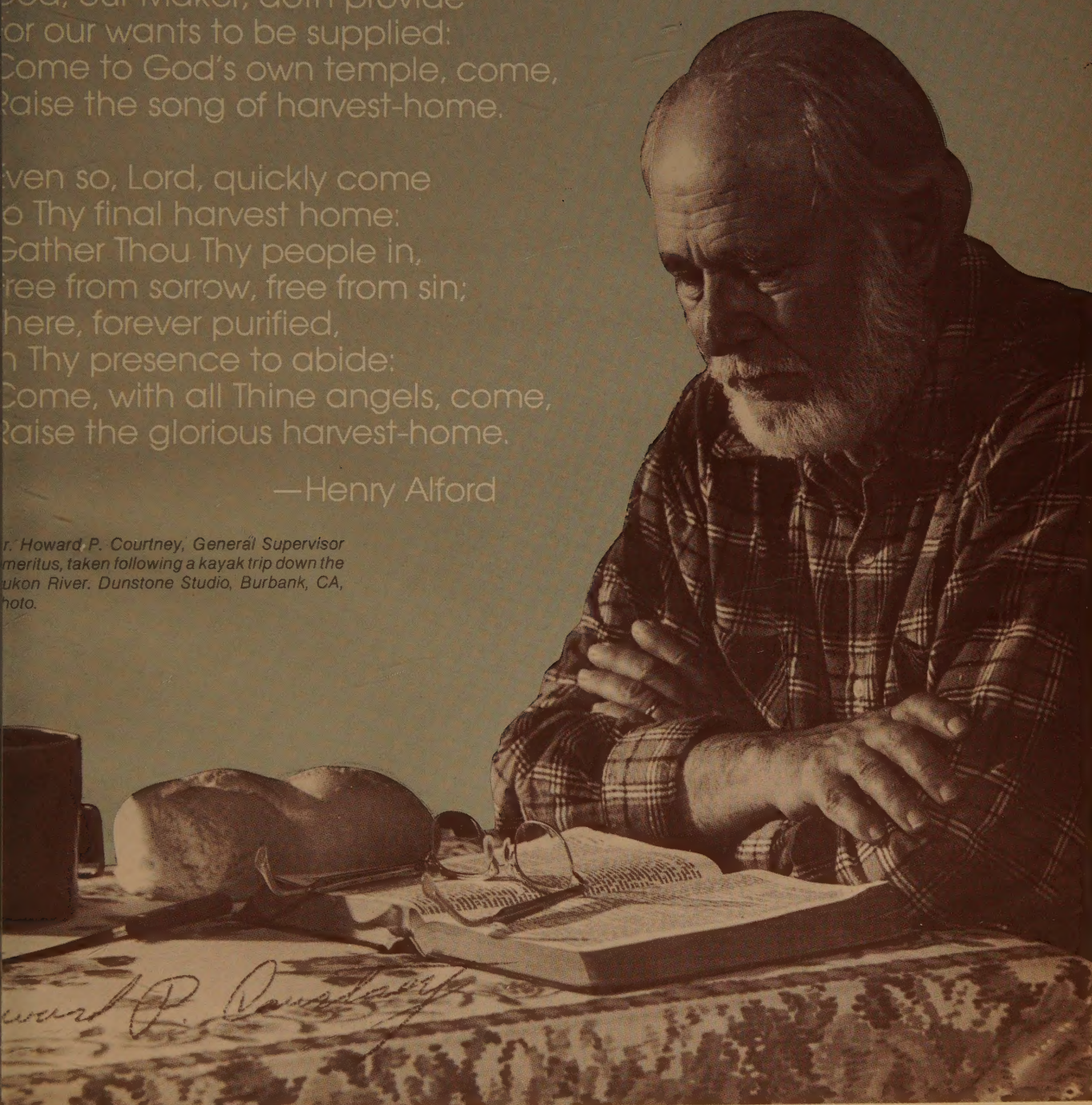
COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE

Come, ye thankful people come,
Raise the song of harvest-home:
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest-home.

Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home:
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin;
Here, forever purified,
In Thy presence to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest-home.

—Henry Alford

Mr. Howard P. Courtney, General Supervisor
emeritus, taken following a kayak trip down the
Tukon River. Dunstone Studio, Burbank, CA,
photo.





IN THE SPIRIT

By Dr. Harold Helms

Praise Will Lift You Above Worldly Cares

Before the discovery of the New World, the Latin words "ne plus ultra" ("nothing beyond") were inscribed on old Spanish coins. After Columbus discovered the New World, the words were changed to "plus ultra" ("more beyond")!

One new discovery in today's Body of Christ is worship. Never will the day come when we can write over our experience or knowledge, "nothing beyond." We are growing in our knowledge and practice of praise.

The psalmist believed he had the capacity to "bless" God! Indeed, the Church's role as Bride is to thank, praise, worship, love and adore her Lord. Generally, it is true that when a bride becomes the lover that she is meant to be, the husband as never before seeks to provide for her and the family. Just so, as the Bride of Christ becomes more aware of her role as lover or worshipper, she is amazed at the amount of work that gets done. Today, it seems that we have never seen our Lord so busy in

building His Church. And the glory is all His!

Since our first obligation to Christ is that of a loving relationship ("Thou shalt love the Lord thy God..." [Matt. 22:37, KJV]), we need to know more perfectly the meaning of thanksgiving, praise and worship. These terms are sometimes used interchangeably in Scripture. Generally, to offer "thanksgiving" means that we express gratitude for God's acts toward us. The word "praise" is used in relation to techniques of worship and giving thanks. "Worship" clearly is associated with attitude toward God and cannot be separated from service ("Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve" [Matt. 4:10, KJV]).

It's Natural to Praise!

Over and over, God as "Legislator" demands praise, and as Sovereign God, commands it. As Creator, He has packed praise into nature itself. The mountains "skip like rams" (cf. Ps. 114:4, 6), and

the trees lift their leafy arms, as it were, to Him.

He has also instilled praise within us. To praising, Spirit-conscious people, every step is on holy ground, every bush is burning, and all the earth is filled with the glory of the Lord (Num. 14:21). It is natural, just as it is perfectly normal to express praise for a work of art, a beautiful sunset, or a worthy accomplishment.

The emotionally healthy person or congregation is a praising one. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord" (Ps. 150:6, KJV). But an individual or church which cannot praise gives evidence that something is wrong. I heard of a small-town farmer who, while standing before the great geyser Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park, said, "What a wonderful place to scald hogs!" I once heard a tourist, while standing on the rim of the Grand Canyon, say, "What a big hole!" Rather than accept the facetious, superficial judgement of these tourists, we are apt to judge them by their statements. Something was "wrong" with them which caused them to be unable to praise the surrounding beauty.

God is Holy—Not the "Man Upstairs"

Of course, if one is to praise a work of art, for instance, he must first know something about it. I cannot praise Picasso's work because I do not understand it. Just so, in order to worship God, we must know something about His character. Our worship seems to be conditioned, then, by at least two factors—our knowledge of God and our relationship to Him. (It is possible to consider these two factors as one for, in a sense, they are inseparable.)

God is, above all else, a holy God. Many of us are frustrated in our worship because of our imagined familiarity with Him. He has been addressed as our "Big Brother," our "Copilot,"

"The Man Upstairs," "He." Some have a "judy" image of God. Whatever temporary comfort or cozy relationship, no worship such as conceive

The early church was a praising community because it had a solid Old Testament theology. They knew God was holy and transcendent; they did not approach God as if His holiness could be bargained or blast you, cure you, or give you. Good intentions and the best mistakes did not save people from judgement. They had read of Uzzah who touched the steady the Ark of the Covenant (II Sam. 6), and some personally known Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5). Goodness was like electricity; if it could be beneficial to you, it could be beneficial to your neighbor.

To see how far some of us come from this knowledge of God, read some of our prayers today: "Since I met Jesus, I have been like a warm blanket to me. He filled me with His love. P.T.L.!" How foreign this terminology would have been to an Old Testament Jew who was so careful about writing down the names of the Holy One of Israel!

Worship—Or Lip Service?

Since worship is more like Him, it is why Jesus should link prayer and service together. Matthew 4:10: "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve" (KJV). Worship and service are inseparable. Worship without service is mere service; hypocritical lip service. "form of godliness," without worship is cold ritualistic, professional, institutional "religiosity."

This is why God called Israel in Amos' day to praise songs were just to Him (Amos 5:23). He pleased that everyone be himself to be a "little" with his vocal and instrumental worship. What God

daily lifestyle. Applying today, is it true that sanctified, Holy Ghost-people" with the gifts of spirit in their lives, can operate in "praise service" "sing in the Spirit," I have impure lives? It happened in Corinth!

Do Not Ship To Manipulate

may need to repent of our pseudo-praise too much of the material written in recent years is very egocentric. We "praise" God for all the nice things He is currently doing but that is often the purpose of our praise. Or, worse, our praise may be intended to be manipulative. Some people lead us to believe that if we simply praise God enough, we can save us from all unpleasant situations. That technique works on your friends and relatives (It is called "flattery" not "praise"!), but never on God.

that "perfect" man, based on blasphemy when he tried to order God around. He thought he knew exactly what God should respond in any given circumstance. Theology did not allow for people to get sick. They got rich instead. Accordingly, therefore, only sinners suffered.

He had a choice. He could acknowledge that his way was correct and that he was a sinner (as his friends thought), or he could concede that his theology was incorrect. To admit the latter, he would make himself appear a fool. When God manifested Himself, Job understood that he had "uttered things which I understood not; things wonderful for me, which I did not" (Job 42:3, KJV).

Costs To Cry "Hosanna"

Worship involves sacrifice.

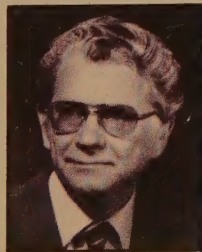
We often quote the verse: the Lord "inhabitest the praises of Israel" (Ps. 22:3, KJV), but we seldom relate it to verse one which reads, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

It costs to be a worshipper. This is vividly shown in Abraham's experience when he offered his son as a sacrifice. Abraham's experiences with God, his fellowship and friendship with God, had produced God's likeness in him to the point that he was willing to offer Isaac as an act of worship.

A person who will not give his son, his time, his talents, his money or his reputation to God can hardly be the worshipper God intends him to be. He may know the techniques of praise, but his heart will not be in it. This is why our very praise needs to be purified (Prov. 27:21). If our hearts are not right, the same lips that cry "Hosanna" today may cry "Crucify Him" tomorrow. We have seen that happen all too often.

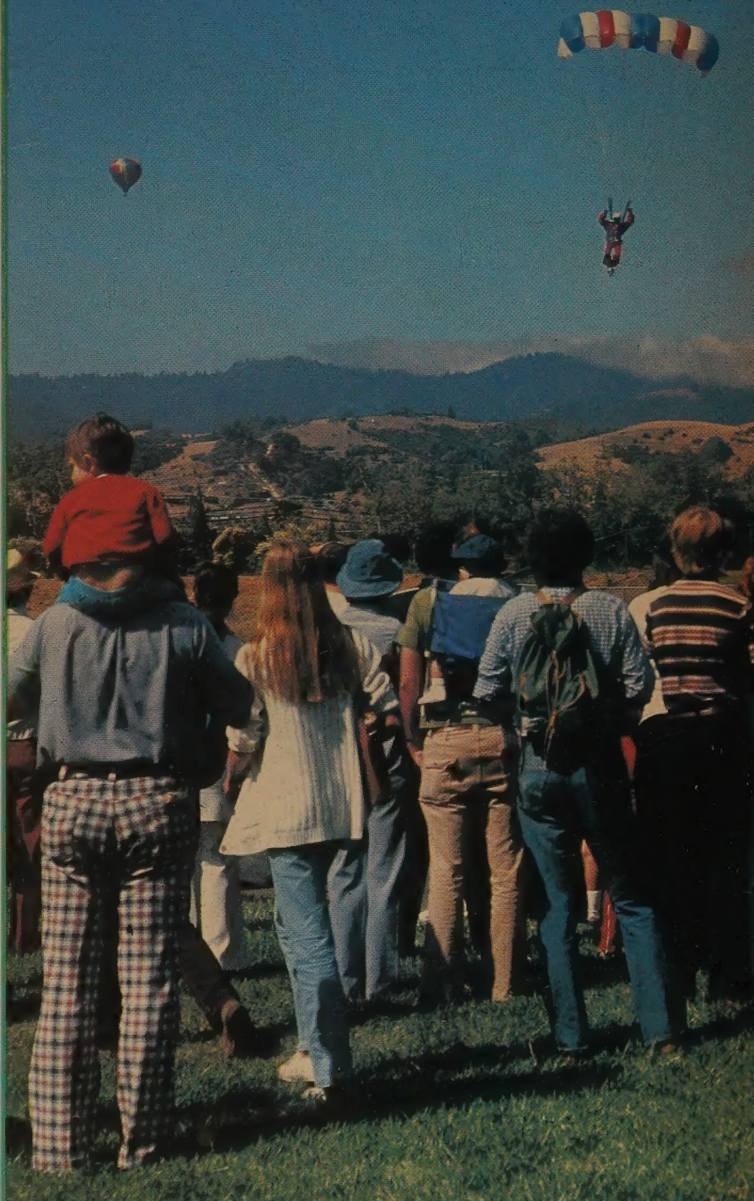
I suggest to you one of the most beautiful examples of praise. It is found in Matthew 21:14, 15. After a manifestation of Christ's holy wrath in cleansing the temple, the blind and the lame come to Jesus. We see His holy love reaching out to them and his holy power healing them. All the while the little children are singing, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"

What a picture of the Church as it always ought to be! Can we come as little children around Him, loving Him because of who He is? In the midst of our worship, we will not be surprised when miracles occur. We will only increase our praise, for we know Who should receive all honor. Amen!



Dr. Helms is the pastor of Four-square headquarters church, Angelus Temple, Los Angeles, California.

The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.
—John 3:8, NIV



Dusk was slowly settling on the California city of Escondido when, suddenly, a wail of sirens pierced the air. Even before the sounds died down, Phillip Pascoe bolted from his house, terror gripping his heart. He and his wife, Julie, had been rejoicing over a job assignment they had received. They were working and singing to the accompaniment of the "Hallelujah Chorus" playing on their stereo. Julie hardly had time to wonder why Phil had hurried out or where he had gone when she saw him rushing wildly up the driveway, crying, "He's dead, he's dead, Jesse's dead!"

The little seven-year-old boy had begged to go get an ice cream at the dairy right around the corner. There was no concern that he was riding a bicycle, because Jesse was an accomplished rider. He could do "wheelies" and "donuts," which he often did for his parents who proudly took pictures of him. No one could really explain, but somehow Jesse and a transit bus collided at the intersection of a dirt road on the main avenue.

Thus began a series of events which would reveal the power of God daily in overcoming every tactic of the enemy, Satan, to rob this small boy of his life. Jesse was well known in the neighborhood, a happy personality, yet one of the close neighbors who saw him lying in the street, blood covering his face, did not even recognize him.

Everyone thought Jesse was dead, but God was not dead! God had His people in strategic places. A neighboring woman saw what happened. She first called the paramedics, then her prayer chain. Even before the paramedics came, there was intercession going up for Jesse. The paramedics arrived very quickly and within five to six minutes were taking Jesse to the emergency ward. These paramedics were both Christians and prayed for him all the way to the hospital.

Jesse had a one-year-old brother, Richard, and a thirteen-year-old sister, Johanna. It would be several months before he would be reunited with them again. But that day was coming. God would be continuing the "Hallelujah Chorus" which had been abruptly interrupted that never-to-be-forgotten evening of September 20, 1982.

Not Expected to Live

At the moment of this traumatic scene—screaming sirens, a small boy wheeled into the emergency ward—God had His timing and intervened in a very obvious way. It "just so happened" that one of the top neurosurgeons was walking through the hall, able to readily assist. At this point no one knew if Jesse was dead or alive. Upon examination, the doctors verified that Jesse was indeed alive, but in a deep comatose state. Immediate surgery was necessary.

The doctors would not allow any information about Jesse's condition be known during the four hours he was in surgery. Only one comment was said: they "did not



By Doris Warr

expect him to live through this." It took the full four hours for the doctors to clean the dirt and gravel from the injured brain. A CAT scan showed that almost the entire left side of the skull was gone. Although no other bodily injuries were found, one doctor told the Pascoes that Jesse's head was like a cracked egg, with air flowing through the brain. He had never seen a patient injured like this and still live.

The word was quickly passed around, and almost within minutes after Phil and Julie arrived at the hospital, friends began appearing one and two at a time to wait and pray. Thus began times of PRAYER AND PRAISE. That night, everyone learned what it means to use the tools of God's Word and experience God's supernatural ministry.

Julie said, "About 40 people in all came. Some stayed with us day and night during the first three days. Every time the report of a problem was given, everyone would join in and pray right then about that specific crisis. Very shortly, the report would come, 'Jesse is better.'"

Phil Pascoe remarked, "The brothers and sisters had overcoming faith for us. Every time a wave of fear would develop, they would pray, and then a wave of faith would sweep over us."

One highly critical moment came when the doctors said there was inner cranial pressure. PRAYER AND PRAISE! The report soon came that the pressure was going down.

Another family waited for a loved one that night, including a small girl about 10 years old. Julie noticed the girl, sitting quietly and observing the people praying and praising. Later, Julie felt a tap on her arm, and looked down into the eyes of the small girl who simply said, "I called my Daddy because when he prays, God listens." Within a prelude to the months to follow, as the family of God prayed for Jesse and knew that their heavenly Father listened!

The Child Shall Not Die

The turning point that evening occurred when their pastor, Rev. Coleman Phillips, told them, "You cannot manufacture your own faith at a time like this. Let the faithful your brothers and sisters carry you." While they were praying, the Lord gave the pastor this word: "The child shall not come but live." Within the next few days, three separate individuals called of their own accord with the scripture from Psalm 91: "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him" (KJV).

The Lord constantly gave refreshment through His Word. He directed the Pascoes to Psalm 118:17: "I shall not die, but I will and declare the works of the Lord" (KJV). Later, Phillip and Julie printed this and put it over Jesse's bed, so when he came out of the coma he would see it. As the family of God was merged into one, God's peace spread over them like a blanket. They knew



ve: Timmy Johnson, right, has his best friend back. Left: Jesse's sister, Johanna (left), and her d, Belinda Chamberlin, help him up the front steps to his home.

Comforter was in their midst, and it ned most fitting that they call the I.C.U. "Intercessory Christian Unit."

od's continual evidence of His total oration which He had promised was ized once again two days after the dent. The doctors alerted them that se had a terribly high blood platelet -worse than a leukemia patient. At moment he could begin to bleed rnal, and it would be several hours re they could arrange the proper trans- on. PRAYER AND PRAISE! In four hours blood level was far above what it had n when the crisis started. The normal is 200,000. Jesse's had been 64,000, pping to 19,000. When the level rose k up it was 84,000. The doctor said it impossible, and that there was "proba- a mistake in the lab."

s Jesse slowly came out of the coma- stage, his parents realized he under- ded what they were saying. One evening, e was telling a friend how Jesse used to with his baby brother. She began ating the sounds Jesse would make. denly, they heard Jesse, still in a atose state, making laughing noises. e repeated the sounds, and he started hing again.

credible"

uring the course of Jesse's 116-day pitalization, a variety of doctors worked im, including a neurologist, neuro- eon, pediatrician, orthopedic specialist, three major therapists. It is important to w the analysis and comments of these ors. The doctors said Jesse's right side d never regain mobility; yet, after the ew weeks they described his reflexes incredible." They said Jesse's speech d never contain more than five words.

He has almost totally regained all vocabulary and ability to form complete sentences.

The doctors said Jesse's memory would be greatly affected; however, a great "V" day in his recovery came when another CAT scan was taken. The doctor said, "There is evidence from this that he cannot do anything he is doing!" This was six weeks after the accident and Jesse was showing definite signs of unimpaired memory. He was making sounds to respond to questions, and identifying pictures, match- ing them with words.

It was an exciting day for a seven-year-old boy in the San Diego Children's Hospital the day Chuck Muncie came to visit him. It was three months after the accident. The entire San Diego Chargers football team had visited just before Christmas, and Chuck Muncie, a famous running back, returned on New Year's Day to see Jesse.

Chuck shared with Jesse that when he was a small boy, he had been hit by a truck and told he would never be normal. But there he was, standing big and healthy, a famous star, and getting a smile from a little boy who already knew he would make it! Before leaving, Chuck gave Jesse a team ball he had used in a game just a few days before.

Home!

This new year of 1983 would bring many giant steps in Jesse's improvement. The first step came just a few days after Chuck Muncie's visit when they released Jesse to go home. There was much cause for rejoicing, because the Pascoes had, at one time, been told that if Jesse survived, his injury would cause him to have a totally different personality. Their hearts had cried out to God, for Jesse had radiated a sunshiny personality—always singing and talk-

ing about Jesus. Praise God, He answered their prayers!

Jesse arrived home, riding happily between his mother and grandmother in the cab of his grandfather's compact pickup truck. He was welcomed by his classmates, and even before they could see his face, they spotted a brilliant blue San Diego Charger helmet.

At the time of his injury in September, Jesse had been advanced to second grade. In January, four months after the accident, he was diagnosed as being within the mental and social range for his age group. He was placed in public school with an aid. Jesse walks with a slight limp, but the therapist said his next shoes would not have to be specially made. This fall he is in public school, with no aid, using an adult three-wheeler. Again, this is a miracle. The educators and therapists decided they want to see Jesse in a normal environment rather than in a class or school for the handicapped.

One Last Hurdle

Jesse's last surgery took place in July. The doctors replaced the portion of skull that was missing. Medically speaking, this is a very tedious operation. An acrylic substance is molded to the portions of the skull remaining on the left side. This is a very hot substance and can only remain long enough to set. If left too long it can burn the brain. When the mold cools, it is wired into place.

The Sunday before this operation, Jesse attended the worship services where the elders anointed him and the body of believers joined in prayer for him. MUCH PRAYER AND PRAISE! After the four-hour operation, the doctors reported a miracle! When they prepared Jesse, they found a fluid-filled cyst, which they immediately drained. This cyst, which had not appeared on any of the scans, would have probably hampered movement on the right side. Since the operation, the doctors have noticed a definite improvement of spontaneous movement on that side.

If you would happen to drive by the Pascoe's residence in Escondido today, you would see a sunshiny, active, now eight-year-old Jesse. And in all probability, you would hear the "Hallelujah Chorus" winging sounds of joyful praise throughout the home. Phil and Julie's hallelujah is, "Praise God for His faithfulness, the power of His Word, and the multitude of miracles we have experienced this past year. He has made Himself abundantly real and precious." And Jesse would shout a hearty "Amen" to that!

Mrs. Warren is a published writer, great-grandmother, and serves as poet of the Scriptural Women's monthly newsletter. For three years she has served as a church secretary of the Escondido, California, Foursquare Church.



"In the morning, I get up excited knowing that God is doing something new."

—Rev. Dale (and Patti) Downs, Assistant to the National Board of Brazil.

Togeth

REV. DALE DOWNS: "I am so honored by the Lord's call to this ministry. It means that I have a role in fulfilling the GREAT COMMISSION. Because He called me here, I have confidence that my life is making a positive contribution to the development of leadership and the growth of our Brazilian work."



Dale Downs is serving under appointment by the National Board of Brazil. He works closely with the President, Dr. George Faulkner, and the Executive Secretary, Dr. Jayme Paliarin. Dale travels extensively and teaches in churches, seminars, leadership conferences and Bible institutes. He also manages the new Christian bookstore at the Sao Paulo Foursquare Church. His wife, Patti, speaks to women's groups and concentrates her energy on caring for Dale and their four children.

FRESH INSIGHT. Revival is thundering across Brazil. Our churches are worshipping and praising God with soaring intensity. Dale observes: "God is calling the Church to a fresh insight into the presence, glory and power of the LIVING CHRIST." Everywhere He is preached, droves of people are accepting His offer of freedom and eternal purpose.

The swelling of renewal has challenged the Church in another area—DISCIPLESHIP. Dale shares, "With this monumental move of

(Top row, left) Dale often speaks in leadership conferences. His strong encouragement has made a positive contribution to the spiritual development of many.

(2nd row) Wherever the LIVING CHRIST is preached, droves of people are accepting His offer of NEW LIFE.

(3rd row, left) Everywhere, our churches are worshipping with soaring intensity. Hundreds are gaining fresh insight into the person of the LIVING CHRIST.



A PROFILE OF FOURSQUARE WORLD MINISTRIES BRAZIL

MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

4



(Top row, right) At the National Convention in Sao Paulo, hundreds of believers gathered to express their support for several newly ordained ministers (there are now 20,000 credentialed pastors and workers).



(3rd row, right) Legalized pornography has glutted the country. But national leaders are wisely seizing the opportunity at retreats like this to teach the biblical perspective on personal purity.



the Holy Spirit, God has called on us to emphasize and reemphasize discipleship."

ONE MILLION BELIEVERS. The Foursquare churches of Brazil have heeded that calling. Consider this: since 1974, the number of converts has reached *one million*; churches have increased to 1,500; meeting places...1,800; credentialed pastors and workers...20,000; Bible institutes...8; active students...7,000; AND, plans are in the offing to evangelize in North America, Africa and Europe!

NEW OPPORTUNITY. The enemy has acted deviously...five years ago pornography was legalized. Now the streets are glutted with it. BUT the Holy Spirit is even turning this around. One pastor recently said, "I've never had more opportunity to council and teach about fidelity and purity."

Prayer & Action Focus

- Pray for a continued rise in strong leadership and growth of the work.
- Pray about the Brazilian economy. The economy is heating up at a 100% inflation rate per year.
- Pray about the release of funds for churches in the midst of building programs.

Brazil is coming to Jesus because untold saints have committed themselves to see it happen. Their intercession and sacrifices laid the foundation of the present renewal. Now is our time to build upon it...

Together!



INTERNATIONAL UPDATE... A REPORT OF FOURSQUARE WORLD MINISTRIES



Paris, France...For Fun-Loving, Carefree People?

CENTER OF THE FRENCH SPEAKING WORLD. Since Mike and Jill Picone began their ministry in the great center of the French speaking world, Paris, France, they have discovered an important truth. Paris, known worldwide as being a fun-loving and carefree city, is in reality a city which attracts many storm-tossed people. They struggle with the difficulty of life and its multitude of unanswered questions...questions coming from not only the local citizens but internationals visiting Paris from around the world!

STRATEGY EXECUTED. "Our goals in France are twofold," says Mike. "First, we want to see our ministry have an impact for Christ among the French people. This will produce an indigenous church thoroughly rooted in the French culture itself.

"Secondly, we want our ministry to have international scope in order to contribute to revival in the rest of the French speaking world and beyond."

Directed of the Lord, the Picones have selected two strategic areas of greater Paris as their ministry bases. This is because Paris is the economic and cultural capital of France and the French speaking world with innumerable international connections.

To begin executing the first goal of establishing an indigenous church, the Picones selected Creteil, a city in greater Paris. Secondly, in order to reach internationals, they went directly into the heart of Paris to the university, Cite Universitaire, and to the Latin Quarter where they have established two teaching points or meeting places.

169 ARE HUNGRY. In the three present works, the Picones have reported a total of 169 participants. In addition to French people contacted, Mike reports individuals from the following nations: France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Finland, Poland, Morocco, the Central

African Republic, Benin, Sudan, Egypt, Iran, India, New Guinea, the United States and Brazil. Also, worshippers of Islam from Africa and the Mideast, followers of the Hindu religion, and even an atheist from a European Soviet bloc country, are being reached. "A hunger is being noted as these young internationals come in contact with our work," says Mike.

LONELY, ILLEGITIMATE AND REJECTED...THEN JESUS! The Picones tell of a young Arab refugee from a North African nation. Illegitimate by birth, he was spat upon and severely abused just walking down the streets of his native village. Driven to find some kind of identity, some hint of acceptance within a group, he was first attracted to a radical political organization, then to a militant Islamic sect, and finally to the drug culture. This young man continued digging himself deeper into the pit and making more enemies for himself.

But God reached out to him with the love of Christ, rescuing him from his despair. Despite some serious complications that still linger because of his past, he knows the inner peace that only Jesus can provide. He is learning from Scripture about his long-sought-after identity, revealed only in Christ. And he is finding strength to face all his difficulties with hope and the expectation of victory.

UNEMPLOYED, BETRAYED AND DESTITUTE...THEN THE WORD! Bernard, from a former French colony in Asia, saw the responsibility for his family's welfare fall on his shoulders following the untimely death of his father. Unemployment and betrayal by so-called "friends" who took advantage of him in his destitute condition caused him to fall into a deep depression.

"Now in fellowship with us," says Mike, "the Lord Jesus has rescued him from his depression, has provided him with a job, and has awakened in him an avid interest in the Word of God."

SPIRITUALLY DISCOURAGED AND SCRIPTURALLY CHALLENGED! Take



This is the Picone's place of connection for international students from nearly 15 countries.

as a final example Alain, a young, spiritually discouraged Frenchman without work for two years. He has responded positively to the scriptural challenge to pray. Alain has already seen some exciting results and is now confident that the Lord does indeed care enough to provide him with needed work.

10,000 Saved, the Kidnapped Released in Colombia

10,000 PROFESS FAITH. Evangelist Roberto Espinoza proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ to Colombian crowds as large as 15,000. As a result, approximately 10,000 people professed faith in Christ. The two-month series of campaigns were held in Bogota, Barrancabermeja, Cartagena and Cucuta, all major cities.

MIRACLES IN ABUNDANCE. Many spectacular miracles demonstrated the love and power of God personalized in individuals, as deaf, dumb and crippled people were healed. Tumors, cancers and hernias disappeared. A lady paralyzed on one side was healed. Demons possessed and oppressed people were delivered. Marriages were restored and healed.

PRAYER STILL NEEDED. "It is still too early to see how these evangelistic meetings will affect the churches," missionary James Tolle commented. "Earnest prayer is greatly needed so these

new believers will enter organized churches and be discipled."

GOSPEL TO RICH MEANS GOOD NEWS TO POOR. Increasing numbers of empty-hearted, needy, Colombians of wealth and prestigious positions are finding a new dimension of life never known before but described and illustrated in the lives of Bible people like Nicodemus and Zacchaeus (Luke 19 and John 19). A number of these converts are reaching out to the poor, the unfortunate, and Hidden People groups in Colombia and Peru. With a caring and compassionate heart, they are giving large amounts of support toward these projects.

KIDNAPPING THREAT DEALT A BLOW. "Recently," Rev. Tolle reports, while teaching the congregation about the value and responsibility of intercessory prayer, the Lord impressed us to pray for many people kidnapped and held by subversives. The congregation, upon understanding the authority which theirs in Christ, interceded for three specific individuals who were personally known by many in our congregation. Each of those three have been released unharmed."

The awareness and practice of exercising authority in prayer has increased with. The people envision God's power in His redemptive plan bringing knowledge of Christ to all of Colombia and beyond.

SCHIZOPHRENIC DELIVERED. Rev. Tolle shared, "A woman came for prayer and counseling, stating that she could not bear to live longer. She had been diagnosed as a pathological schizophrenic, and had tried every means known to her for relief. Her past of prostitution still lived in her mind, condemning her daily.

"After initial counseling and believing in Jesus, Foursquare missionary Dan Larson prayed for her deliverance. The transformation was almost immediate. "Days later, a knock came at the door. It was a medical doctor who wanted to know how it was that, in one



(Top) Mike Picone fellowships with friends from the Paris Bible study. (Center) A 1983 work team from the Van Nuys, California, Foursquare Church, builds a church south of Bogota. (Bottom) Bogota is home for millions, many of whom have not yet been touched with the gospel. (Left) Paris' Eiffel Tower.

visit, the schizophrenic woman of long-standing had been changed. Dan shared the gospel with the doctor, who happened to be the woman's brother. Since then, people arrive frequently telling of how they found the Lord through this woman's testimony."

Even Jail Bars Shall Not Hinder in Mexico

YOU SHALL BE SAVED AND YOUR HOUSE. The strategic, yet tender ties within families provide bridges for the spreading of the gospel in Mexico. Missionary Tom Valdez reports how the reaching of one family member has brought many to Jesus Christ.

Nancy came to the Foursquare church, found Christ, and experienced a growing relationship through Bible study

and fellowship. She began sharing what she learned with her husband, Jose, who was serving a jail sentence for drug trafficking. Each time Nancy visited Jose, she shared with him the Good News of Christ, and he, too, believed and was baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Much persecution from jail inmates followed. Jose was to serve seven years. Suddenly and unexpectedly, Jose was released from jail and two hours later appeared at the Foursquare church door in time for Friday night prayer meeting. Tears of joy and happiness began to flow.

Faithfully since that night, Jose attends services, has a very sweet spirit, and openly testifies of Jesus' work in his life. And so continues through those tender family ties the message of Jesus' love.



England, God Loves You!

By Vonnie Coombs

OFF WE FLEW...excited...feelings of expectancy, of intrigue, hardly believing the day had finally arrived. We were on our way to England! So many months of waiting and looking forward to this time—and here we were.

What was ahead for us? Each wondered how he/she would be involved in this T.A.S.T.E. Team—the Teaching, the Alerting, the Sending, the Testing, and the Exposing to international ministry. What would be accomplished for the Kingdom? Who would we meet? How would we get along as a team?

We each had our preconceived notions as to what things were going to be like. None of us had been there before, so we had to just wait and experience it together as the moment came.

TIME FLEW! So much happened! As we boarded the plane to fly home, yes, we were still excited. But we were experiencing a different type

of emotion. We were returning to our homes stirred and challenged; we will never be the same. Our small world has been broadened, our expectations and preconceived ideas have been changed. We have tasted a different culture, seen God move in our personal lives in new ways, and have been stretched beyond ourselves. But how did all of this happen in just two or three weeks?

ENGLAND, the “Old Country”—rich in heritage and tradition, the streets of which many of our forefathers walked. As we strolled these same thoroughfares, we craned our necks to glimpse massive church structures centuries old, cathedrals with intricate mosaic carvings of marble and wood, with tall columns and spires reaching far into the sky. The interiors—huge and quiet, filled with tombs and memorials to great men of the past; former vicars, honored townsmen.

These huge minsters and cathedrals were built “to the honor of God,” in which to worship God—yet they seem empty, dead. We on the T.A.S.T.E. Team felt keenly challenged to offer a sense of renewed life through Christ, a living relationship with a living God.

The need for a real gospel is seen in the faces of the English themselves.

Even though the cities speak of the ancient history and strength, the English have deteriorated in the morals. Youth dressed as “punk rockers” are seen everywhere—even in the small towns. Their radical attitude speak of hardness and apathy. They don’t care what others think of them, but they do want to be different. Some they shave their heads, wear mohawks, paint their hair bright colors, wear drab-colored clothes that look like sacks.

IN THE MIDST of this “age of modernism” society, our teams spoke up two by two, and starting in the town square, we talked to shop owners and those just lounging on park benches. The English displayed courteous, proper manners, and enjoyed chatting once we initiated conversation. Many seemed to be very nonchalant about life; they had never taken the time to think about God or their future eternities. Others had been taught in schools to believe in evolution. Some attended church and have been baptized in the Church of England, but their “worship” approaches dead ritual. On the other hand, many are fed up with religion and do not want anything to do with it. And then there were those who just agreed with what we shared.



Donnie Coombs photo



above photos show the faces and sites of England, and some of those who ministered through the England T.A.S.T.E. Teams. ■ Team I ministered July 1-22. Members were: Ohio—Ron and Susan Phillips (leaders), Tricia Watson, Jenny Aldrich; Colorado—Terry Vinsonhaler; Maryland—Ken Harley; and California—Jeff Garoutte. ■ Team II ministered August 1-15. Members were: Ohio—Ron and Susan Phillips (leaders), Tricia Watson, Jenny Aldrich; Colorado—Terry Vinsonhaler; Maryland—Ken Harley; and California—Jeff Garoutte. ■ Team III ministered August 16-30. Members were: California—Donnie Coombs (leader), Jackie Belliore, Martha Isbel, Chris McDow, Gregg Townsend; Idaho—Kelly Blankenship, Darin Bramblett, Steve Cox, Steve Cox, Lisa Law, and Cindy Williams.

...t who did not commit themselves. We believe, however, that good seed was planted. Many were challenged to think about God and their lives with a perspective of eternity. In addition to personal street evangelism, we held park meetings. One morning a public address system was set up, and all the team members shared their testimonies, making a personal appeal to those listening of their need for Christ. Flyers passed out door to door and at train stations enabled us to share our testimonies.

THE TEAM also ministered in established Foursquare churches, both in the city of Rainham, where our missionary Howard Manthe ministers, and in Thetford. Cindy Williams from Maries, Idaho, shared, "What impressed me first was the intense desire of the Body in England to reach the lost. They give themselves to soul winning with zeal, dedication, and determination in spite of all the enemy forces to stop them. Secondly, I noticed the fact that they put prayer before any activity and ministry. The congregation members realize that the success of their ministry depends on the depth of their prayer lives as individuals and as a body."

ember, 1983

"Thirdly, I noticed discipline in the Body. No one seemed lazy; everyone who could had a part in prayer and in ministry.

"Finally, I observed deep love and unity among the Body. One family was responsible for 'chauffeuring' the team. They did it with such love and willingness, it touched my heart. Another family opened their home to us anytime of the day or night—and they did it with real joy and caring. I returned home with a new desire to minister as God would have me first to Him, then to the Body and the world."

IT IS EVIDENT that not only were the people of England ministered to, but each of US grew. One of the greatest works that occurred seemed to be in the personal lives of each team member. There was a firm binding and closeness which took place between team members as they spent time together and experienced the same feelings.

One stated, "I believe God is going to use this experience as a new cornerstone in my walk with Him." When asked what she learned, one answered, "Flexibility! I had to learn that there are different ways to pray, to praise and to witness. I cannot put God in a box." Another stated, "Before

I left, I didn't have a very high opinion of myself. I've come to realize that I am worth something."

Each of us had tasted of a different culture, seen God move, and been stretched beyond ourselves. We all left with a deep sense of gratitude to God for what had been accomplished.

Rev. Edgar Coombs, Special Assistant to the Director of Missions International, skillfully organized and directed again this year the T.A.S.T.E. Team operation. Eleven teams (including four sent out from local Foursquare churches) composed of 131 young people were sent to the four major continents and several island nations of the world. Edgar spent many long hours organizing the teams, making visa and flight arrangements, and setting up the communication with each missionary involved.

If you are interested in being part of a team this coming summer, just contact Missions International, 1100 Glendale Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026.

Donnie Coombs, 1979 graduate of LIFE Bible College at Los Angeles, led the England II T.A.S.T.E. Team. She serves in the communication and promotion department at Foursquare Missions International.



Inside Our Foursquare Family

The Real Rainbow Connection

"The Real Rainbow Connection" was the theme of a first prize float entered in the "Genoa Days" parade by the Genoa, Illinois, Foursquare Church. The float,



constructed by the young people of the church, presented a strong message of the connection between the cross of Christ and what men are seeking most in life—the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

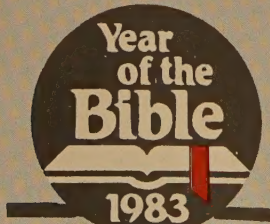
A first prize was awarded to the church by the parade committee. One week later, a first prize was again received at the Fourth of July parade in a nearby town. The Genoa Foursquare Church is pastored by Rev. and Mrs. James Freund.

1984 NAE Convention Dates

The 1984 National Association of Evangelicals Convention is set for March 5-8 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. If you desire to write in early for room reservations, please indicate to the hotel that you will attending the NAE convention. Single room rates are \$54; double rates are \$64.

Bible Sunday November 20

The American Bible Society has announced Bible Sunday to be held on November 20. The American Bible



Society launched Bible Sunday in 1900, and churches have celebrated it every year since 1915. This year will see the 69th continuous annual observance.

1983's theme is "The Word Speaks to the World," emphasizing that the Bible has a special message for everyone in the world. This theme follows and extends beyond the 1983 emphasis of

the proclaimed Year of the Bible, encouraging Americans to apply the teachings of Holy Scripture.

Youth Fight Battle at Mooresville, North Carolina

Youth at the Mooresville, NC, Foursquare Church (#1) have become deeply involved with ministering to one of their own. A young girl in the youth group is fighting leukemia, and she is being supported by her peers through prayer and community fund raising programs to pay for the extensive treatments. The young lady will receive a bone marrow transplant in October; a 100% match for this was found in her own sister. God is truly working to bring a community and the body of Christ together.

Vacant Lot Used For Ministry in Macon, Georgia

The Macon, Georgia, Foursquare Church began recently to minister on a vacant lot to the youth in their neighborhood through hot dog cookouts, ball games, and personal one-on-one ministry. When several of these young boys were brought to summer camp, all found Christ as their Saviour! Now one month since camp, all the boys are still involved in church and many parents are coming to the Lord also! Pastoring the Macon Foursquare Church is Rev. Mike Parks.

Foursquare Member Honored by Colorado Governor

Mary Martinez of Longmont, Colorado, was a special guest of Colorado Governor and Mrs. Richard Lamm on September 6 for the 5th Annual "Leadership Luncheon." Mary was honored for her "many years of volunteer service to the citizens of Colorado."

Former International Board Member Home With Christ

Dr. Bernard A. McKeown, who served as a member of the International Board of Directors for six years, passed away on August 19, 1983. A graduate of LIFE Bible College in 1931, Dr. McKeown pastored the following Foursquare churches from 1931 through 1956: Los Angeles, CA; Olympia, WA; Vancouver, B.C.; Lynwood, CA; Santa Monica, CA; and Burbank, CA.

Dr. McKeown served as Superintendent of LIFE Bible College of Canada 1941-44, and as faculty member of LIFE Bible College at Los Angeles 1944-51.

In a tribute written by his son, Dr. Roy

McKeown, President of World Opportunities International, one excellent reads, "He has been the greatest father I could ever have had. I could not have loved him more. My memories of him center around his being on his knees in prayer and in studying God's Holy Word." The many who Dr. McKeown touched through ministry owe much to this dedicated man of God. He is survived by his wife, Laura, of Glendale, California.



Building Christian Library

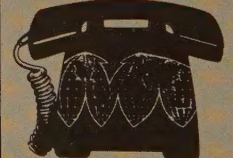
Out of the Saltshaker, by Rebecca Pippert, IVP, 1979, 192 pp., \$4.95 (paper). Available from your local bookstore.

Helps you relax about sharing your faith in Christ. With many practical examples, this book leads you to discover how Jesus can be our model in evangelism. It won't give you a method, but a way of life.

What Every Christian Should Know About Growing, by Leroy Eims, Victor Books, Scripture Press, IL, \$4.95, 160 pp. Available from your local bookstore.

You can grow to be the disciple Christ wants you to be. Spiritual growth isn't automatic. Not according to Leroy Eims, Director of Evangelism worldwide for The Navigators. In this book, you can almost hear him talk and feel his personal warmth as he leads a new Christian through the first steps of growing up. The author shows how to study the Bible, develop a prayer life, avoid pitfalls to Christian growth, live under the lordship of Christ, be fruitful, be victorious over sin, and understand basic Bible doctrines.

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Down to Basics

Perhaps no geographical terms whelp are fallacies and phantasies than "Palestine" and "Palestinians," names that dominate modern news.

What is the original "Palestine"? Who are the true "Palestinians"? What insights does the Bible offer?

The name is a Hellenization and Latinization of the Hebrew *Peleseth*. ("Philistines" as RSV correctly translates Isaiah 29:29, 31 and Joel 3:4. It meant "land of the Philistines," the southern coastal strip of Canaan.)

"Palestine," as understood today, appears nowhere in Scripture. Antisemitism certainly prompted the Romans to pervert the meaning of "Palestine" be-

yond Philistine territory to designate the entire area of ancient Israel. Thus, in this sense Romans recognized Jews as the original "Palestinians." Jews inhabited it when the usage was coined. But never until the British Mandate were residents there, no matter what their race, ever called "Palestinians." For 400 years before 1917 the inhabitants called themselves "Syrians."

No self-governing nation has ever been named "Palestine." There is no Palestine today. The name has not been on the map in any form since 1948 when the British surrendered their Mandate. Before 1917, "Palestine" was not even a province of the Ottoman Empire which occupied the territory. At best, it was a sort of insignificant county in the large Turkish province called Syria. Contemporary Israel is the first wholly independent nation ever in "Palestine" since before the time of Christ.

Except for the period between 1920 and 1948, "Palestine" as a geographic designation is as equivocal as America's "Middle West." Neither term has any binding significance on political maps.

Those called "Palestinians" today are really Arabs. Arabs never enjoyed political control or statehood in "Palestine." Jerusalem has never been the capital of

any independent state except Israel. It was never an Arab capital.

These facts confirm the biblical prophecies about the Promised Land, as God charted ownership, chronology, and boundaries in Genesis 12:7, 13:15, and 15:18, whose composite ceded to Abraham's descendants through Isaac and Jacob forever the territory between the river of Egypt and the Euphrates.

The forcible ejection of the Jews from their land by the Romans some decades after Christ's Olivet discourse (Matthew 24) in no way annulled God's land grant to Abraham. Amos 9:15 prophesied: "I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord" (KJV). This was not fulfilled after the return from Babylonian captivity because Jews were again pulled up. Neither was the great promise of Jeremiah 16:14-16 fulfilled then. Jews, the original Palestinians, rule "Palestine" for the first time since the intertestamental period. Probably not until the tribulation or millenium will Israel expand to fully occupy boundaries God charted to Abraham.

Dr. Cox is the pastor of the Salem, Oregon, Foursquare Church.

Viewpoint

Rev. John Schmidt

"Believer" Poverty

When approaching the subject of poverty, we Christians have a tendency to look outward to the world around us. Visions of all hungry children with protruding ribs, emaciated by a life of starvation flood from various corners of our memory. We see poverty as a distant sorrow visited upon the undeveloped nations and war-torn lands. But, is poverty really distant?

Poverty is certainly seen in the needy and hungry of faraway places, but poverty of the same magnitude can also be observed in the inner sanctum of the hearts of believers. A very real poverty takes

place in North American Christians when one or more of the following is evident:

1. A lack of willingness to give with liberality.
2. Biblical financial principles are not practiced.
3. Giving money takes the place of personal involvement.

First, in Proverbs 11:24 it says, "...there is that (person who) withholdeth more than is meet (necessary), but it tendeth to (bind him to) poverty" (KJV). A possessive or "stingy" believer is poverty stricken, for his lack of willingness to give much makes him a worshipper of his own limited budget and resources. He is bound, directed and dictated by them. He is enslaved, unable to give to meet his own spiritual need of giving to others, and is therefore poor himself.

Secondly, many believers say they trust in God, but a surprising number have few scruples when daily exercise of godly financial principles are demanded. When faced with situations that call for a decision, our measuring rod is to be the Bible. It gives more than adequate advice for financial decision making. Yet, poverty strangleholds many believers by causing them to rely on their own wisdom and the world's corporate business approach. Choosing to ignore God's plan for free-

dom, they become prey for the jaws of the roaring lion—Satan. Proverbs 13:18 says, "Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth (God's) instructions" (KJV).

Third, a closer relationship between what we give monetarily and our own time involvement in that effort must be considered. To give without getting involved is to give without love. This could propel us into the questionable area of attempting to buy ministry. Love demands working with our own hands and giving of ourselves. Money given without our own personal involvement smacks of loveless activity, which, according to I Corinthians 13:3, profits nothing.

It could be concluded that when believers lack love enough to avoid involvement, when they lack action based on the Word, and when they give begrudgingly, then they have been captured by the spirit of poverty. As long as this poverty reigns in the hearts of believers, the needy of the world will remain poor. Shattering the burdensome yoke of mammon from off of the spirit of North American believers may well be the answer to world poverty. It will absolutely be the answer to "believer" poverty.

Rev. Schmidt is the pastor of the Life Centre Foursquare Church, Coquitlam, British Columbia.



Above:
UFW Inter-
national Board,
at new headquarters
in Norwalk, CA, dedicated
April 23, 1980. Below:
Edythe Dorrance (left) and
Lois Van Cleave founded
UFW on July 1, 1954. Bot-
tom left: UFW supports
orphans in Hong Kong
(pictured), Ecuador and
Honduras.



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